NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg



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GREGG ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR PORTSMOUTH RIVERWALK; STRAWBERY BANKE RECEIVES FINAL CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, today announced that with last week's Senate passage of the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations Conference Report, \$720,000 for two Portsmouth projects has arrived at the White House for final approval. Senator Gregg was able to include the funding for the Portsmouth Piscataqua Riverwalk project (\$450,000), and expansion of the exhibition facility at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth (\$270,000) in the measure.

Senator Gregg stated, "Portsmouth is an excellent example of a city thriving and growing while working hard to preserve its historic roots, and both of these projects exemplify that goal. Strawbery Banke has been teaching and celebrating the maritime history of New Hampshire's seacoast for decades, and both residents, visitors, and countless numbers of school children enjoy its treasures and colonial surroundings ever year. The exhibition venue will allow Strawbery Banke to enhance its standing as a tremendous, living display of New Hampshire history. The Riverwalk will also allow for improved access to businesses along the Piscataqua River while learning about the commercial history so closely tied to the waterway."

Portsmouth Mayor Evelyn Sirrell expressed her deep appreciation for Senator Gregg's long standing support for the Riverwalk project, "The City is very appreciative of Senator Gregg's ongoing efforts in support of Portsmouth's Riverwalk project. We're focusing our efforts on constructing the Riverwalk along the commercial portion of the Bow Street waterfront. The City Manager is meeting one-on-one with property owners, and we believe we can make this a win-win project for Bow Street businesses and residents, as well as the community as a whole."

Kathleen Mullins, President of Strawbery Banke, stated, "We at Strawbery Banke are grateful to Senator Gregg for the strong support and encouragement he has demonstrated for the Museum and for our community. In a difficult economic environment, it is wonderful to have our public officials truly recognize the need to preserve our heritage and to make it possible for historic resources to be used to educate our citizens. Through an understanding of history, individuals gain an important perspective on our present and future world."

FY03 Omnibus Appropriations Conference Report U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) Member, Senate Appropriations Committee

\$450,000 – Portsmouth Piscataqua Riverwalk Project

The Riverwalk project seeks to construct a 400-foot pedestrian walkway to provide increased movement along the river and give residents and visitors improved access to the variety of businesses in the downtown area and numerous scenic and historic tourist destinations. The project is an effort to reconstruct Bow Street's historic wharf system.

Contact: Evelyn Sirrell, Mayor of Portsmouth, or Cindy Hayden, Portsmouth Community Development Director, at (603) 431-2000

\$270,000 - Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth

This award will substantially advance a priority project at Strawbery Banke: the creation of an exhibition venue on State Street. Strawbery Banke will use the funds to create an exhibition space in a facility currently owned by the Museum on State Street. The rehabilitation of this space would allow for the display of the precious objects in the Museum's collection.

Contact: Kathleen Mullins, President Strawbery Banke, Inc., at (603) 433-1100.